

# GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Published Weekly by  
THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(The National Geographic Society is a scientific and educational Society, wholly altruistic, incorporated under the Federal law as a non-commercial institution for the increase of geographic knowledge and its popular diffusion.)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

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CONTENTS FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 11, 1922. Vol. 1. No. 20.

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Photograph by H. G. Dwight. © National Geographic Society.

## THE HARBOR OF CONSTANTINOPLE

Constantinople is a city of mosques and minarets. The harbor there without them would be like the harbor of New York without the sky-scrappers of Manhattan.

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## HOW TO OBTAIN THE BULLETIN

The Geographic News Bulletin is published weekly throughout the school year (thirty issues) and will be mailed to teachers for one year upon receipt of 25 cents (in stamps or money order). Entered as second-class matter, January 27, 1922, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1163, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized February 9, 1922.

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## Lausanne: Scene of Conference on Near East Problems

MENTION "Swiss Cities" and several others than Lausanne come first into mind; but the products of none are more commonly at hand among Americans than those of the town chosen as the meeting place for the Near East Peace Conference.

Look over the shelves of a grocery store and prominently displayed on the shelf of condensed milk you are almost sure to find a variety made at Lausanne.

Scan the confectioner's counter in any drug store and there in black paper and silvery foil will be a milk chocolate made at Vevy, not far away, and probably shipped via Lausanne.

A mental morsel of a public library is Gibbon's "Rome" and the last three volumes of that work were penned at Lausanne.

## When Mansard Built His Own Roof

Stroll along the main street of an American town that dates back to colonial days, or among the "For Sale" signs of your city's newest suburb, and you are likely to note a mansard roof—invention of the French Francois Mansard whose fame is enhanced by a beautiful chateau in the vicinity of Lausanne.

Lausanne is the all-year-round hostess city of Switzerland. In 1910, by count, nearly one-fourth of the 46,000 residents were citizens of other countries than Switzerland. And in 1922, by estimate, this proportion has been restored despite the war's disturbance.

From Lake Geneva the other part of the city especially is striking, trailing the crests of five ribbed hills, which are the lower slopes of Mount Jorat, with the Cathedral of Notre Dame, the finest medieval church edifice of Switzerland, easily the most conspicuous feature.

From the Signal, whence many a writer has painted word pictures of the lakeside city, the eye again catches the massive bulk of the Gothic cathedral, sweeps red-roofed houses, rebels at the factories of the newer town to the south and west, but is captivated by the expanse of the lake's blue waters across which the "jagged teeth of the Savoy Mountains bite into the sky."

## Tailor's Son Was City's John Harvard

The luster of famous names clings chiefly to the University buildings. Though the institution did not achieve a formal university status until 1891, it has been famous since its founding, in 1537, the year after Bern took over the control of Lausanne. Previously, it had been said, Lausanne "lay dormant at the base of its many churches." The tide of the Reformation swept in with the Bernese affiliation. A school was needed to train young preachers quickly to spread Protestant doctrine.

Thus Pierre Viret, a tailor's son, became the John Harvard of Lausanne. Then came Conrad Gesner whose fame rests on a solid pedestal of more than three-score works in science, ranging from philology to botany. Overtopping

Bulletin No. 1, December 11, 1922 (over).



Photograph from Edwin A. Grosvenor. © National Geographic Society.

**ONE OF THE MODERN MOSQUES IN CONSTANTINOPLE, THE MOSQUE NOURI OSMANIEH,  
COMPLETED IN 1754**

"It is remarkable that so many cities of first importance are situated on the same great parallel. That narrow belt, hardly more than 90 miles in breadth, which encircles the globe between  $40^{\circ} 20'$  and  $41^{\circ} 50'$  in north latitude includes Constantinople, Rome the Eternal City, Madrid, the political and literary capital of Spain, and on this side the ocean the two metropolises, unrivaled in the Western Hemisphere, New York and Chicago. One traveling directly east from New York City Hall for a distance of 5,622 miles would pass through the southern suburbs of Constantinople."

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## What is the Gulf Stream?

**J**UST what is the Gulf Stream?

Discussions about its effects upon climate and mariners' reports of its excessive heat recall that the first detailed study of what he called "the grandest and most mighty terrestrial phenomenon," was made by the late Rear Admiral John Elliott Pillsbury, U. S. N., a former president of the National Geographic Society, and summarized by him in the National Geographic Magazine.

"In all oceans there are movements of the water (other than that caused by the tides) which may be said to be due primarily to the prevalent wind," Admiral Pillsbury wrote.

### The Ocean's "Circulation"

"In the two great oceans, the Atlantic and the Pacific, there is to be found both north and south of the equator, and also in the Indian Ocean, a similar circulation, that is a general westerly movement in the tropics, a flow toward the poles along the eastern shores of the continents, an easterly set in the temperate zones, and a current toward the equator along the western shores. It thus becomes a grand circular movement, some parts being quite slow, and other parts very swift; sometimes there may be a temporary interruption in the slower portions, or perhaps even a reversal, but taken as a whole the movement is continuous.

"In the North Atlantic Ocean the currents are probably more pronounced than in either the Pacific or the Indian Oceans.

"The equatorial current is usually described as being a broad band of water moving across the Atlantic in the tropics. The portion of this current situated south of the equator is divided into two parts upon meeting the eastern salient of South America, Cape St. Roque. One branch turns south toward the Antarctic, while the other is forced to the westward along the shores of Northern Brazil and the Guyanas, and is called the Guyana coast current. The equatorial current north of the equator has an almost uninterrupted progress until it reaches the Windward Islands, but a portion of it also impinges against the Guyana Coast and thus augments the volume of that current.

### How Gulf Stream is Formed

"At the Windward Islands both are united, and a portion of the flow enters the Caribbean through the various passages, crosses it to the Yucatan and Honduras coasts, and thence into the Gulf of Mexico, from which it issues through the Straits of Florida as the Gulf Stream. Passing onward toward Europe it is augmented in volume by a part of the north equatorial current that sweeps along outside the West Indian Islands and the Bahamas, and while this current is slow in movement in comparison to the Gulf Stream itself, it doubtless carries a much greater number of heat units to help warm up northern Europe.

"The Gulf Stream, or rather the combined flow mentioned above, divides

this prodigious research was his enumeration of some 500 plants not hitherto recorded. Most humanly appealing of these early scholars was Theodore Beza, who graduated from the adventures of a cavalier, and forsook the writing of sprightly verses for the chair of Greek and morals at Lausanne. Then he turned his pen to Biblical dramas before he went to Geneva to be Calvin's chief aide.

The Simplon tunnel assures Lausanne's future. The city now lies along the main rail route from Paris to Milan.

Bulletin No. 1, December 11, 1922.



*Photograph by D. W. H. Longley. © National Geographic Society.*

**PANIC UNDERSEAS (See Bulletin No. 2)**

This wonderful photograph was taken, not in an aquarium tank, but about eight feet under water, in the Gulf Stream, with an especially designed camera. Posing for their portraits are gray snappers, yellow goat-fish, grunts, a parrot-fish, and a schoolmaster, nocturnal fish, which as a rule, rest quietly all day. The seeming confusion is due, however, to the presence in their neighborhood of a barracuda, that veritable tiger of the warm seas and the natural enemy of all small fish.

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## The Begum of Bhopal

THE Wali of Kalat, the Jam of Las Bela, the Gaekwar of Baroda and the Begum of Bhopal.

These are not countersigns for secret societies nor characters in the latest musical comedy hit, but flesh and blood rulers whose names turn up in the news now and then to make weary editors tear their hair. The Begum of Bhopal won first page attention when she entertained the Prince of Wales upon the latter's visit to India. Bhopal is typical of the many diverse religions, nationalities and interests represented in that great political unit we call India.

## Only Woman Ruler in India

This central Indian state of Bhopal upsets a good many cherished Western hemisphere notions of the East and its customs. It is ruled by Mohammedans in whose eyes women are popularly supposed to be inferior beings existing for man's pleasure, who must be kept carefully secluded from the world. Yet Bhopal has the only woman ruler in India, Sultan Jahan Begum, and she is actually the power in the land, ruling it actively. Moreover she is not an exception in a long line of masculine rulers, as was Queen Victoria, but is the third successive Begum to rule the country. Her queer title, incidentally, is roughly the feminine equivalent of Nawab and Rajah. One Western conception she does live up to. Though she appears constantly in public she is always veiled. Few are her subjects indeed who know the appearance of the face that rules them.

It is confusing, too, to the Westerner unfamiliar with India's hodge podge of religions to find that though Bhopal is the second most important Mohammedan country in India, its population is 73 per cent Hindu and only 13 per cent Mohammedan. Its present ruling family was founded by an Afghan soldier of fortune who leased some adjoining territory from the Mogul empire in 1708, took Bhopal by force of arms and declared himself an independent nawab.

## Picturesque Lake-side Capital

Bhopal is in almost the exact center of India. It is slightly smaller than the State of New Jersey and has a population of close to three-quarters of a million. It is largely a plateau region with considerable areas of fertile soil and large expanses of grass-covered downs which support cattle. In the patches of jungle leopards and tigers find cover, and an abundance of wild fowl makes it a haven for the hunter.

Bhopal city, the seat of the Begum, is one of the most picturesquely situated of the Indian capitals. Its surroundings testify to a high order of engineering ability on the part of the Indians when medieval Europeans were doing little to harness nature's forces or to modify the face of the earth. With quaint terraced streets the city is built up the side of a ridge 500 feet in height and its lower edge is bathed by a large artificial lake impounded by a massive dam. Just beyond this lake is a second large body of water held by a greater dam which is believed to have been built in the eleventh century at the latest and

as it meets the resistance of the Eastern Continent, one branch flowing south along the African coast, while the other proceeds northward into the Arctic toward Spitzbergen and Franz Joseph Land.

"It is difficult for the mind to grasp the immensity of this great ocean river. The Straits of Florida at the narrowest point are about 40 miles wide and observations here numbered between three and four thousand, surface and subsurface. A calculation of the average volume of water passing in one hour gives the enormous sum of 90 billion tons. If this one single hour's flow of water could be evaporated, the remaining salts would require many times more than all the ships in the world to carry it.

### Magnitude of Ocean River

"When one is on board a vessel, floating upon its waters, one is not as much impressed at the power and grandeur of this wonder of nature as he is when he stands before a towering mountain, an immense iceberg, or a fall of water such as Niagara, but when one remembers that the mighty torrent, speeding on hour by hour and day by day in a volume equal to all the largest rivers in the world combined, carrying its beneficent heat to temper the climate of continents, one begins to realize that of all the forces of the physical world none can equal this one river of the ocean.

"It is interesting to note in the history of the Gulf Stream how great its influence has been on the fortunes of the New World. Before the discovery of America, strange woods and fruits were frequently found on the shores of Europe and off-lying islands. Some of these were seen and examined by Columbus, and to his thoughtful mind they were convincing evidence of the fact that strange lands were somewhere to the westward. These woods were carried by the Gulf Stream and by the prevailing winds from the American continent, so that in part, the stream is responsible for the discovery of the New World.

### Influence in Colonizing America

"The influence of the Gulf Stream in the colonization of America was very great. The division of the English colonies into New England and Virginia was probably in part due to the routes by which they were reached. Vessels bound from England to New England crossed the North Atlantic outside the limit of the Gulf Stream, or in a feeble adverse current. They had the advantage too, of crossing the Newfoundland Banks and of being able to surely replenish their provisions by fishing.

"This voyage, however, much as the advantages might be either by the shorter distance or the gaining of food, was not thought to be practicable with a vessel bound to the Southern Colonies. They sailed south to the trade-wind region, through the Caribbean and around Cuba, thence following the Gulf Stream to their port.

"The Dutch adopted this passage to the Hudson, so that really Nantucket Island became the dividing line between the two voyages; a difference of 100 or 200 miles in destination caused a difference in the length of the passage of about 3,000 miles.

"The name 'Gulf Stream' was first suggested by Benjamin Franklin because it issues from the Gulf of Mexico. While it is only a part of the grand scheme of ocean circulation, and the Gulf of Mexico is in reality only a stopping place, as it were, for its waters, this name is generally applied to the current now as it was given by Franklin—that is, the current coming from the Gulf of Mexico and spreading abroad over the North Atlantic."

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## Will Airplane Fairs Come Next?

FROM Winnipeg to Rio de Janeiro, and from Christiania and Algiers to Singapore and Tokio, commercial fairs and exhibitions are springing to life after the discouragement of war years, and are playing an increasing important part in making nations acquainted with each other and with the kind of life each leads.

The familiar county fairs of our own country are outgrowths of these old-world fairs which have been important factors in the lives of nations and in the evolution of society itself. In order to survive they have had to go through some vital changes. They probably started in the dim days of prehistoric Asia as sort of irregular markets held at relatively long intervals; and during the Middle Ages when transportation was difficult they were the chief agencies of European trade.

### A Few Old Types Survive

Where conditions have remained relatively primitive the famous old fairs have continued to function until today. The annual fair at Nizhni Novgorod continued largely to dominate the commercial life of Russia until the revolution, and even since then the distribution of foodstuffs, textiles and furs through this old gathering place of traders has been an important item. For centuries it has been the gigantic exchange counter between vast areas of Asia and Europe.

In the portions of the world well developed with highways, canals, railways and ocean ports, both local and international fairs of the old type, devoted largely to the distribution of staple supplies, died out. But the fair idea lived on, merely changing its form. Special industries and groups of industries began holding expositions in England and France, and the idea spread to other countries.

### The Birth of World Fairs

Before a great while these localized and restricted exhibits expanded to include many industries, those of foreign lands as well as their own. Soon came the full fledged "world's fairs," the first of which was held in London in 1851. Many have been held since both in America and Europe, Paris holding the palm for numbers.

But at the root of the world fairs or international expositions was the idea of general education, and closely connected with it was the amusement aspect. They served well as occasional more or less sugar-coated demonstrations of the progress of the world, but they failed to measure up to the efficiency standards of the modern distributor. Side by side with them had grown up special international industrial exhibits and sample fairs, and by the outbreak of the World War these had been forged into modern agencies' meeting twentieth century conditions. Now that all nations are girding themselves for an after-the-war scramble for trade such fairs are being held on all sides.

Samples of almost every conceivable manufactured product and machine

perhaps much earlier. The dam creating the larger lake also separates the two lakes, and near it is a great pile of white palaces. From the palaces a spacious flight of steps leads, through a huge gateway, to the water's edge. The city is about the size of St. Joseph, Mo.

### An Artificial Sea

Not far from Bhopal city are the ruins of an even more ambitious engineering project—dams which 1,000 years ago created a lake 250 square miles in extent which is said to have materially modified the climate in its neighborhood. The dams were destroyed nearly 100 years before Columbus crossed the Atlantic, and the old bed of the lake whose soil is exceedingly rich, now produces a good part of the opium which Bhopal exports.

Famine laid a heavy hand on Bhopal in 1899-1900 and the population at the following census showed a reduction of 30 per cent. Even today in many of the villages of the country abandoned houses are to be seen in various stages of decay. The country is progressive in many ways and dates much of its progress from its energetic first Begum, Sikandar, who introduced reforms which have been carried on by her daughter and granddaughter.

Bulletin No. 3, December 11, 1922.



Photograph by Maynard Owen Williams. © National Geographic Society.

A SECTION OF THE PEARL BAZAAR IN LAHORE (See Bulletin No. 4)

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## Fighting Fires by the Tipping System in Constantinople

**S**MYRNA burned and the world was startled.

Constantinople is partly burned—but the world has forgotten about it.

Traces of the fires that swept Baltimore and Chicago have been obliterated; but not so with disastrous blazes that charred whole sections of the Turkish city which just now is very much a center of world attention. A communication from Solita Solano to the National Geographic Magazine says:

"The devastating fires that have ever been working toward the destruction of Constantinople caused the city to be built anew every fifty years, until a law was passed prohibiting the construction of wooden houses on the site of burned ones; in fact, it was provided that no houses at all should be built until the city government planned new streets.

### A Fourth of Stamboul in Ashes

"Nothing has been done about the planning, however, and the result is that one-fourth of Stamboul—more than 22,000 houses, burned during the past twelve years—still lies in ashes. Scutari, too, has vast ruined sections. So has Pera, on a much smaller scale.

"When a fire starts in Stamboul it nearly always assumes frightful proportions. In the fire of 1908, 1,500 buildings were destroyed; in that of 1911, 2,463 houses; the following day an entire Jewish quarter burned; in 1912 an immense area between Sancta Sophia and the Marmora was consumed. The fire of June, 1918, burned 8,000 buildings, clearing a space from the Golden Horn through the center of the city. These fires are enormously destructive because of the narrow streets, wooden houses and volunteer firemen who go to answer the call on foot, carrying a pump on their shoulders.

### Why Firemen Must Be Tipped

"The firemen of Constantinople are worth a story in themselves. Unpaid for their services, they reason like this:

"If we don't go to this fire, the owner will lose all his belongings. If we go and take some of them home with us and leave some to him, is he not better off than if we hadn't come at all? We give our services free of charge; the owner must give us bakshish if he wants us to risk our lives for him.

"We get to the fire as quickly as we can run, and if the owner does not consent to give us money at once, so we can get to work, the fire will gain headway; that is not our fault, but his."

"It was a cause for grief and accusations of injustice when the British installed their own fire system in Pera. By the time the Turks come panting down the street to bargain, the British have the fire out and are driving away.

"The walls that inclosed Byzantium and saved civilization for a thousand years are still standing, and constitute, with the exception of Sancta Sophia, the most interesting historical monument in Turkey.

are sent to some of these exhibits, duty free, and orders are solicited from the buyers who gather from various countries. Among the fairs of this sort which have become established institutions are those held in London, Birmingham, Bordeaux, Lyons, Brussels, Dresden, Leipzig, Prague, Barcelona, and Milan; and in dozens of other cities it is planned to hold such exhibits annually.

### Fairs That Go to the People

In meeting modern conditions not only have fairs been placed on a sample basis and confined largely to specialties, machines and manufactured articles, but they are seeking out still more efficient methods of reaching larger numbers of potential buyers. Italian manufacturers have adopted the floating fair, fitting out a special exhibit ship which anchors for a time in the various ports around the rim of the Mediterranean from Port Said to Marseilles.

French distributors carried the idea of a traveling fair still further last year, sending an exhibit train across Canada; and a Czechoslovak train of a similar sort has just finished a two months' tour through the Balkans and Poland. Perhaps it is not too extravagant a vision to see the fair which had its humble beginning in some far off Asiatic oasis, established in an ark of the air and capable of carrying its message of progress and foreign culture to every little center of industry and life.

Bulletin No. 4, December 11, 1922.

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### Note to Teachers

References to articles and pictures in The National Geographic Magazine concerning subjects treated in this Bulletin are given because many teachers wish to employ them for further study or for project and problem assignments. The following is only a partial bibliography extracted from "The Cumulative Index of The National Geographic Magazine" (1899-1922, inclusive). A limited supply of some numbers may be ordered from the Society's offices at the prices named. Those numbers marked with an asterisk (\*) are out of print. Bound volumes of The Geographic may be consulted in any public library and in school libraries.

**Switzerland:** The Races of Europe. By Edwin A. Grosvenor, L. H. D., LL.D. Vol. XXXIV, pp. 441-533, 62 ills., 2 page maps, 1 insert, Dec., 1918. (\*)

**Switzerland:** The Ascent of Mont Blanc. By Walter Woodburn Hyde. Vol. XXIV, pp. 861-942, 69 ills., August, 1913. 25c.

**The Millenial City:** The Romance of Geneva, the Capital of the League of Nations. By Ralph A. Graves. Vol. XXXV, pp. 441-456, 11 ills., June, 1919. 25c.

**Republics—The Ladder to Liberty.** By David Jayne Hill. Vol. XXXI, pp. 240-254, 5 ills., 2 page maps, March, 1917. 25c.

**Gulf Stream:** Devil Fishing in the Gulf Stream. By John Oliver LaGorce. Vol. XXXV, pp. 476-488, 7 ills., June, 1919. 25c.

**Interesting Citizens of the Gulf Stream.** By Dr. John T. Nichols. Vol. XXXIX, pp. 69-84, 11 ills., Jan., 1921. 50c.

**India:** Race Prejudice in the Far East. By Melville E. Stone. Vol. XXI, pp. 973-985, 6 ills., Dec., 1910. 75c.

**Temples of India.** From photographs by W. M. Zumbro. Vol. XX, pp. 922-971, 54 ills., Nov., 1909. 25c.

**Castles in the Air—Experiences and Journeys in Unknown Bhutau.** By John Claude White, C. I. E. Vol. XXV, pp. 365-455, 75 ills., 1 page map, April, 1914. 25c.

**The Geography of Our Foreign Trade.** By Frederick Simpich. Vol. XLI, pp. 89-108, 25 ills., Jan., 1922. 50c.

**Constantinople and Sancta Sophia.** By Edwin A. Grosvenor. Vol. XXVII, pp. 459-482, 21 ills., May, 1915. 25c.

**Life in Constantinople.** By Harry Griswold Dwight. Vol. XXVI, pp. 521-545, 25 ills., Dec., 1914. 30c.

**Cumulative Index of The Geographic Magazine.** 200 pages, size of The Magazine; cloth, \$1.50; postpaid in U. S. A.

## Byzantium Walls Still Stand

"The impression produced by these battered and lonely ruins is ineradicable. The lines of walls and towers still stretch out as far as the eye can see, rising and falling, tinted from dark brown to ocher and gray, sometimes covered with vegetation. They are barbaric, threatening, mournful.

"Modern Constantinople is forgotten as one tries to imagine what these barriers seemed like to the hordes of barbarians who came every few years, looked at those miles of moated and turreted walls, and then turned back.

"Now gypsies and refugees live here and there in the ruins that extend for five miles across the isthmus, from the Sea of Marmora to the Golden Horn. They rob the gardens which are cultivated in the old moats, and watch with astonishment the occasional airplane that buzzes high over the walls of Theodosius II."

Bulletin No. 5, December 11, 1922.



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### A FRUIT-SELLER OF RAWALPINDI

Not only is Rawalpindi the Main Street showroom for Kashmir shawls; hither also come the rosy-cheeked apples of the enchanted vale, the finest available in a land of many fruits.

